

**Amendment to the Claims:**

1-2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An analysis apparatus~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~[[2]]~~ 18, further comprising:

~~means for enrichment of enriching a plasma signal contribution.~~

4. ((Currently Amended) ~~An analysis apparatus~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~[[2]]~~ 18, further comprising:

~~selection means for a selective analysis of selectively analyzing the plasma component.~~

5. (Currently Amended) ~~An analysis apparatus~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~[[2]]~~ 18, further comprising:

~~means for stopping or slowing down [[the]] blood flow in the target region, in particular by pressure squeezing.~~

6. (Currently Amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The analysis apparatus as claimed in claim ~~[[2]]~~ 7,

~~wherein the image processing unit is adapted for selecting vessel selects areas in the image showing capillary vessels or vessel portions having a diameter below a predetermined 15  $\mu$ m diameter value by use of using an optical vessel tracking means-system.~~

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An analysis apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein~~ in particular a spectroscopic analysis apparatus, for blood analysis comprising:

an excitation system for emitting an excitation beam to excite a target region;

a detection system for detecting scattered radiation from the target region generated by the excitation beam and for analyzing the scattered radiation;

a monitoring system for emitting a monitoring beam to image the target region;

~~[[the]]~~ an image processing unit is adapted for processing the image of the target region and for selecting vessel areas in the image showing capillary vessels or vessel portions having a diameter below a predetermined diameter value and/or including an amount of red blood cells below a predetermined cell amount by use of ~~[[the]]~~ contrast in the image; and

a control unit for controlling the detection system to analyze only scattered radiation from the selected vessel areas and/or for controlling the excitation system to excite only the selected vessel areas or predetermined areas;

wherein only scattered radiation from blood in capillaries having a diameter below a predetermined diameter value and/or including an amount of red blood cells below a predetermined cell amount is analyzed.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The analysis apparatus as claimed in claim [[2]] 7, wherein:

the image processing unit is adapted for retrieving-retrieves at least one of velocity and distance information of red blood cells in the image and intensity information from the scattered radiation; and

~~wherein~~ the control unit is adapted for controlling-controls the detection system by use of said velocity and distance-retrieved information.

9-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) ~~[[An]]~~ A spectroscopic analysis apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further for blood analysis comprising:

a sample holding system comprising a capillary containing the blood to be analyzed, the capillary having a diameter of 50  $\mu\text{m}$  or less;

an excitation system which emits an excitation beam to excite blood in the capillary, an amount of red blood cells in the blood in the capillary being below a predetermined cell amount;

a detection system which detects scattered radiation from the blood in the capillary generated by the excitation beam and for analyzing the scattered radiation; and

an analysis system which analyzes only scattered radiation from the blood in the capillary.

12. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The analysis apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said capillary is adapted for moving-configured to move along its longitudinal axis and/or along the direction of the incoming excitation beam.

13. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The analysis apparatus as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

means for causing a flow of a device that flows the blood through the capillary.

14. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The analysis apparatus as claimed in claim [[1]] 11, wherein said ~~predetermined capillary diameter value~~ is less than 15  $\mu\text{m}$ [[,]] ~~in particular 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .~~

15. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The analysis apparatus as claimed in claim [[1]] 11, wherein said predetermined blood cell amount is below haematocrit 0.35.

16. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The analysis apparatus as claimed in claim [[1]] 7, further comprising:

a radiation source to ~~emit~~ which emits an output beam; and

an optical separation system to ~~separate~~ which separates the monitoring beam and the excitation beam from the output beam.

17. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The analysis apparatus as claimed in claim [[1]] 7, further comprising:

~~trigger means for triggering of a device which triggers at least one of the excitation system for time-resolved excitation of the target region and[[/or]] the detection system for time-resolved excitation of the target region and/or for time-resolved detection of scattered radiation from the target region.~~

18. (Currently Amended) ~~An analysis method, in particular a A spectroscopic analysis method[[,]] for blood analysis on vessels comprising the steps of:~~

~~selecting a target region in the upper dermis having red blood cells below a haematocrit value of 0.35;~~

~~[[ - ]]emitting an excitation beam to excite exciting plasma, cell membranes, and blood in capillaries in the a target region,~~

~~[[ - ]]detecting scattered radiation from the target region generated by the excitation beam,~~

~~[[ - ]]analyzing the scattered radiation, wherein only scattered radiation from the blood in the capillaries having a diameter below a predetermined diameter value and/or including an amount of red blood cells below a predetermined cell amount is analyzed 15  $\mu$ m, the plasma, and the cell membranes in the target region.~~

19. (New) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the analysis determines a cholesterol reading.

20. (New) The analysis apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the predetermined cell amount is below a haematocrit value of 0.35 or less.